RESEARCH SEMINAR SRII, Wednesday, June 12, 14:00–16:00

A little-known Christian insurgency in Tur Abdin c 750: context and causes

Leif Inge Petersen (Trondheim)

During the Abbasid revolution around 750, Syriac-speaking Christians rose in revolt against supporters of the collapsing Umayyad regime. While short-lived, it appears to have been successful in defending the mountains of Tur Abdin against marauding Umayyad partisans (in contrast to Christian communies on the plains that suffered extensively during the Arab civil war) and came to an accommodation with the new Abbasid rulers. New editions of seminal Syriac hagiographical texts as well as recent studies of other, better-known Christian insurgencies such as the Mardaïtes of Lebanon, provide valuable context for the causes, aims and consequences of this little-known episode.

Educationalising Womanhood: Constructions of Female Subjectivities in Ottoman and Turkish Educational Discourse

Badegül Eren Aydınlık (Umeå)

This PhD project explores how womanhood was constructed within educational discourse of the late Ottoman Empire and the early Republic of Turkey between 1859 and 1933. Within the overarching theoretical framework of educationalisation and gender, four substudies of this project aim to understand the position of girls and women in the educational discourse using curricula of girls' secondary schools and female teacher training schools, women's magazines and education/teacher journals.